# ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL

PROJECT INFORMATION				
Project Title: Catchment 1023 (Pink Cliffs) Repairs and Renovation			Project No. 10-105	
Region/GMU: Region 1/GMU 3A	HPC: Show Lo	now Low		
Project Type: Water catchment renovation				
Project Description: Renovation of an existing Game and Fish water catchment (Pink Cliffs #1023) which has been non-functional for 4 years due to a faulty tank.				
Wildlife Species to Benefit: Mule Deer and Pronghorn				
Possible Funding Partners:				
Implementation Schedule: Beginning: Spring 2011	NEPA Compliance: (if applicable) Completed: Yes X No			
Completed: Spring 2012	Projected Completion Date:			
PROJECT FUNDING				
SBG Funds Requested: \$35,836.37				
<b>Cost Share Funds:</b> \$36,700.00				
Total Project Costs: \$72,536.37				
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION				
Applicant: Paul Greer (please print) Telephone: (928) 536-3668	Address: 2878 E. White Mountain Blvd. Pinetop, AZ 85935			
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel)				
Coordinated with: BLM Safford District and AZGFD Development			: February, 2007 thru , 2010	
Applicant's signature:		Date:		

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:

AZ Game and Fish Department Attn: Game Branch 5000 W. Carefree Highway Phoenix, AZ 85086 rgregory@azgfd.gov

WAS PROJECT PRESENTED TO THE LOCAL HPC? YES X NO \_\_\_\_

#### HAS PROJECT BEEN SUBMITTED IN PREVIOUS YEARS? IF SO WAS IT FUNDED?

This project was submitted in 2008 as part of a multi-phased water distribution enhancement project in western GMU 3A and in 2009 as a standalone project. Redevelopment of the catchment has not yet been funded.

#### **NEED STATEMENT/PROBLEM ANALYSIS:**

In the summer of 2007 a slow leak was detected in the Game and Fish owned wildlife water catchment #1023 located north of the Pink Cliffs in western Game Management Unit (GMU) 3A. The leak caused several supplemental water hauling efforts by the Development Branch and resulted in a site visit by Development personnel. The Development Branch determined the water catchment's buried ring tank was the source of the leak. The Development Branch recommended a renovation of the water catchment rather than attempting to patch the leak or install a liner which would be a "band-aid" solution, only resulting in additional repairs needed in the future. Renovation of the catchment would also allow larger holding tanks to be installed, in turn providing greater water storage. Bolstered water storage at this site would allow several years of use by wildlife in the event of a dry year in which the catchment collected very little precipitation. Redevelopment of the catchment would also eliminate the costly water hauling efforts that have been necessary every year since 2007. A temporary drinker has been installed and plumbed to an above ground temporary holding tank at this site. This system currently provides water to wildlife until renovation of the catchment can occur. The temporary water tank is not connected to a precipitation collection device which results in the need for repeated water hauling. Renovation of the existing catchment to the Department's current water catchment designs would greatly enhance the efficiency and longevity of this development as well as eliminate the need for future water hauling efforts to this site.

Located approximately 16 miles northwest of Snowflake, catchment #1023 provides water to several herds of pronghorn and a growing resident herd of mule deer. During the summer of 2010, the temporary drinker was used regularly by a group of mule deer does and several mature bucks. The vegetative type here is juniper savannah which marks the transition area from pinyon/juniper woodland in the south to open grassland to the north. Water sources in this area consist mostly of dirt stock tanks which have been documented to dry up during arid months. Catchment #1023 provides the only perennial wildlife water in the area.

#### **PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

To redevelop a dilapidated Game and Fish water catchment that will provide pronghorn, mule deer and other wildlife with perennial water. This is part of an overall goal to provide perennial water for wildlife across the western portion of GMU 3A.

#### **PROJECT STRATEGIES:**

- Replace Catchment #1023's existing faulty ring tank (8,000 gal)) and apron with two 3' x18' buried fiberglass ring tanks (11,500 gal) and a 24'x72' fenced R-panel apron.
- Replace Catchment #1023's existing rubber trough with a 3' deep fiberglass walk-in drinker.
- Install an apron exclosure fence at Catchment #1023
- Provide a relatively maintenance free perennial water source that has sufficient water storage capacity to
  withstand several years of use in the event of a dry year in which the development catches little or no
  water.

#### **PROJECT LOCATION:**

T. 15N, R. 19E. Section 26. See attached maps. Land ownership for this project is BLM.

- The catchment is located in western GMU 3A off Hwy 377 between Heber and Holbrook.
- Catchment site is marked on the map with a yellow triangle and labeled as GF 1023.
- The nearest perennial water is Twin Lakes which lies 4.5 miles to the south. Although this is a perennial water source, the Pink Cliffs lie between Catchment #1023 and Twin Lakes creating a physical barrier to pronghorn movement. Highway 377 also serves as a physical barrier, which makes water sources across the Highway in GMU 4B inaccessible to pronghorn in GMU 3A.
- Washboard Wash and Buckhorn Draw are ephemeral drainages that typically only have water during winter snowmelt and the monsoon season.

## LAND OWNERSHIP AT PROJECT SITE (Please state specifically if PRIVATE PROPERTY and provide landowner's name):

USDOI Bureau of Land Management, Safford Field Office

### IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT? N/A

#### **HABITAT DESCRIPTION:**

The project area is predominately Great Basin grassland with a component of junipers primarily in the southern portion of the area as well as on the hills and buttes and along draws. Dominant grasses include blue grama, ricegrass, alkali-sacaton, galleta, and dropseed. The shrub component becomes increasingly prevalent to the north and includes fourwing saltbush, sagebrush, snakeweed, winterfat and various ephedras. Elevations in the project area range from 5,200 ft in the north end to 6,100 ft in the south end.

#### **ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:**

#### **Materials Needed For Catchment:**

Quantity	Item	Price
2	3'x18' fiberglass ring tanks	\$20,019.48
1	Elk trough	\$ 3,933.54
1	24'x96' apron	\$ 6,933.35
1	Apron infrastructure	\$ 1,000.00
1	Fencing for apron	\$ 3,200.00
1	Plumbing	\$ 750.00

(\$10,009.74 per tank)

#### **Catchment Costs:**

 Sub-total
 = \$35,836.37

 Tax
 = added in

 Total
 = \$35,836.37

Contracted Labor Cost = \$20,000.00

#### **Arizona Game & Fish:**

Environmental compliance work = \$16,700.00 (COMPLETE)

Development Branch (Cost Share) = \$20,000.00

(Joe Currie has advised that the Development Branch will be able to contribute \$20,000 in cost share to cover contract labor costs to build this catchment.)

**Total Cost** = \$72,536.37

Total Cost Share = \$36,700.00

#### LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

- Arizona Game and Fish will coordinate and contract the construction of this project
- USDOI Bureau of Land Management/ Environmental Compliance

#### PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

Arizona Game and Fish conducts wildlife surveys for antelope and records deer observations in the project area. The Department will continue to do these surveys and analyze the data with respects to this project.

#### **PROJECT MAINTENANCE:**

AZGF will monitor and complete all maintenance needs at this wildlife water.

#### PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Paul Greer / AZGF

#### **WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (see attached worksheet):**

## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

PF	ROJECT NAME: _Catchment 1023 (Pink Cliffs)			
1)	Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent "Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?" Yes			
2)	Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project. Joe Currie 2/21/08, 4/21/08, 5/16/08, 8/26/08, 7/23/09, 8/30/09, 6/21/10 Ed Jahrke 7/9/07, 05/25/10			
3)	What is the estimated annual inches of precipitation for the area? (mark one)2-44-66-8 _X_8-1010-1212-1414-16>16			
4)	Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project? YES (please complete #5 below) _X_NO (skip #5 below)			
5)	For the accessible, perennial water source nearest this project:  Name of water source:  Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank, etc.):  Ownership of water source:  Distance in miles from project:			
<b>6</b> )	Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts?YESX_NO			
7)	Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Parl National Monument, etc). If private land, list landowner.  NA			
8)	Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:  Type of access (mark one): X_2x4 vehicles4x4 onlyfoot only**  **If foot access only: Distance in miles: Approx. hiking time:			
	Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? <u>X</u> YESNO (private land)			
	Please describe any restrictions to public access: None, the private land is open to public access.			
9)	Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the <u>material type and dimensions</u> of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.			
	10) Was a site visit completed? <u>X</u> YesNo  If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.  Tom Christensen AZGF and Paul Greer AZGF on 8/15/07			



Pink Cliffs Catchment #1032 in GMU 3A



